



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

20 October 2005

National Ocean Service

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

Last bulletin: October 17, 2005

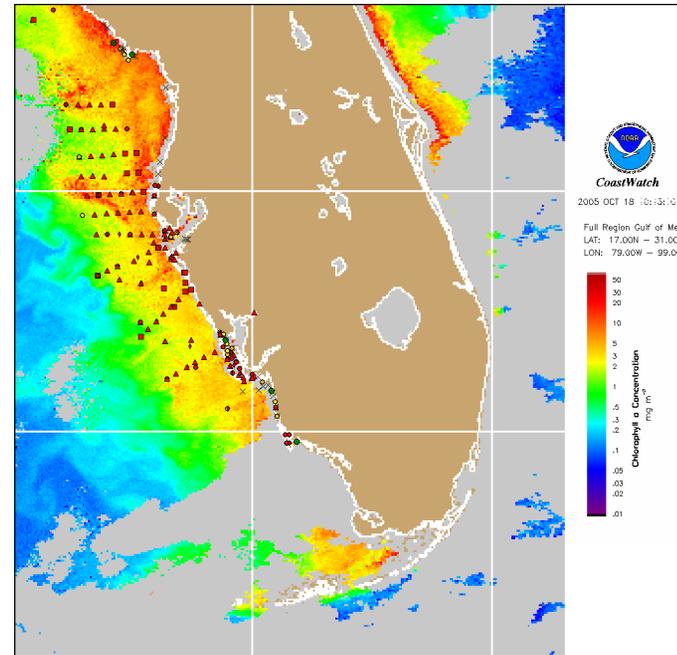
Conditions: Harmful algal blooms have been identified in Florida from Pinellas to Sarasota County, Dixie to Levy County, and in patches along Alabama and the Florida Panhandle. Patchy very low impacts are possible from Pinellas to Charlotte County and from Dixie to Levy today through Saturday. Variable impacts are expected Saturday night through Sunday due to Hurricane Wilma. Patchy moderate impacts are expected from Franklin to Okaloosa County, FL today through Friday, with patchy low impacts possible Saturday through Sunday. Patchy very low to low impacts are possible today through Sunday in Escambia, Santa Rosa, and Wakulla Counties in FL. Patchy low to moderate impacts are possible for Mobile and Baldwin County in AL today through Friday, with patchy very low impacts possible Saturday through Sunday. Dead fish have been reported in the last few days in Okaloosa, Walton, and Gulf counties. Dead fish smell, while unpleasant, does not produce the same respiratory irritation as red tide.

Analysis: The bloom has continued to decrease in intensity over the past week and now extends from Pinellas to Sarasota County. Samples from FWRI on 10/17-19 indicate no *K. brevis* in Lee and Collier County, with background concentrations found in Charlotte County. Imagery on October 18 indicates that chlorophyll concentrations have decreased along the coast from northern Manatee to southern Charlotte County (<10 µg/L). A higher chlorophyll patch greater than 10 µg/L remains offshore of Sarasota County at 82° 44'W 27° 18'N. Sampling is recommended. Offshore of Pinellas County chlorophyll concentrations greater than 10 µg/L were found at 83° 12'W 27° 52'N. Easterly to southeasterly winds through Saturday will minimize coastal impacts. Tropical storm conditions Saturday night through Sunday may cause resuspension along the coast, intensification is not expected.

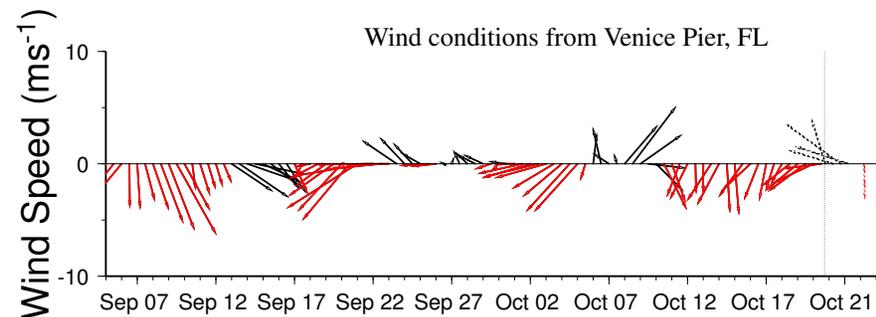
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1. These data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted .
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No recent samples have been reported from Levy to Dixie Counties. Imagery on October 18 indicates that chlorophyll levels have decreased slightly, with a high of 27 µg/L at 83° 13'W 29° 15'N. Offshore of Citrus county a high chlorophyll patch (>20µg/L) was found at 83° 26'W 28° 48'N. Sampling is recommended. Easterly and southeasterly winds through Saturday will minimize coastal impacts. ~ Keller, Fisher

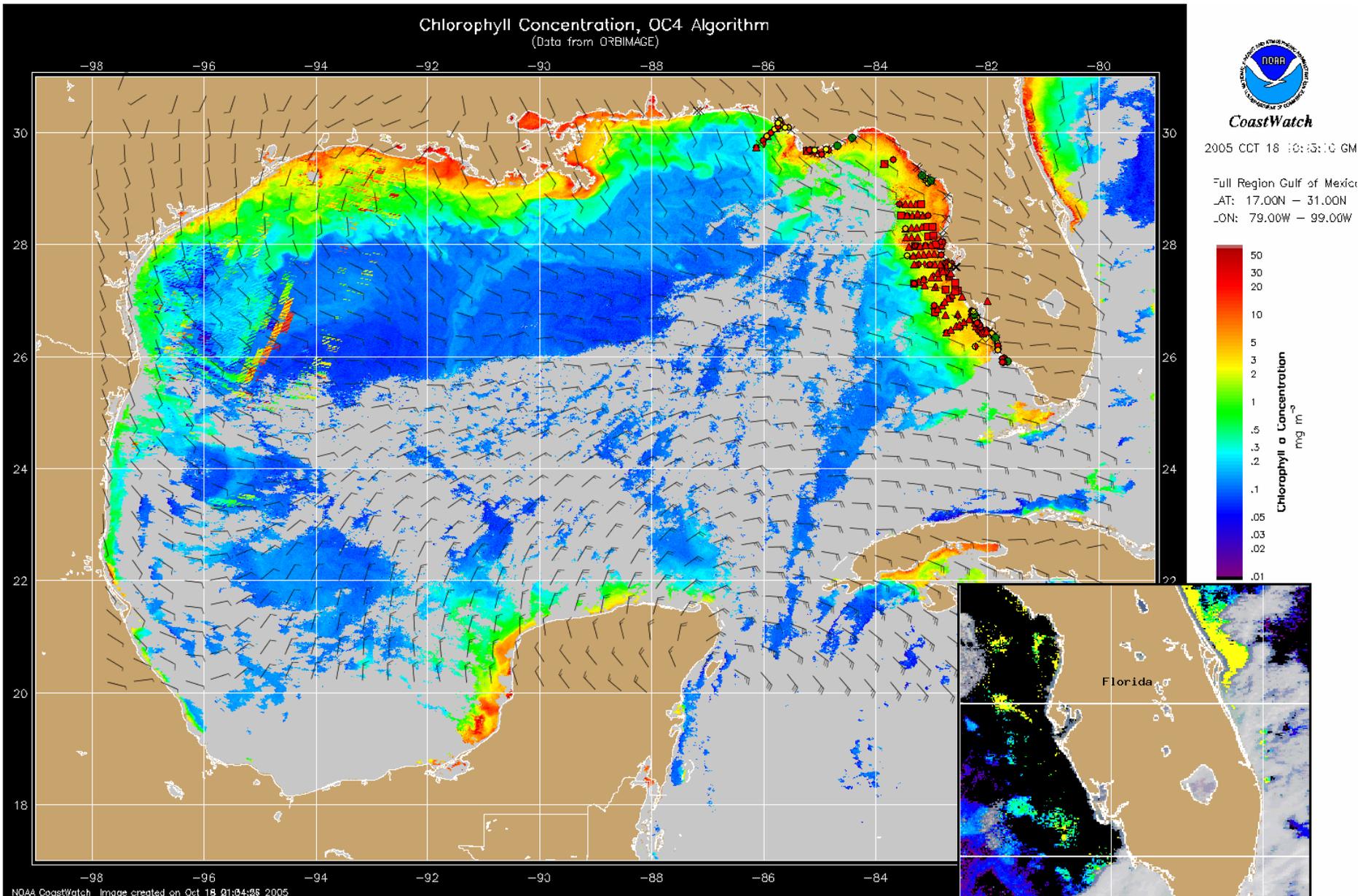


Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from September 30, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: East winds today through tonight at 10-15 knots (5-8 m/s). East to southeast winds Friday through Saturday at 15-30 knots (8-15 m/s). Tropical storm conditions Saturday night through Sunday.



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite and forecast winds for October 21, 2005 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from September 30, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

Blooms shown in red (see p. 1 analysis)

